



PROGRAM NEWS

This is a bi-monthly newsletter
and is downloadable from
<http://www.healthyfamilies.ca.gov>

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*A publication providing information
and items of interest to California
Healthy Families and Medi-Cal
Enrollment Entities, Certified
Application Assistants, families,
and participating plans.*

Inside this issue:

Revised Joint Application	1
Revised CAA Reference Manual	2
New Tax Forms	2
1099 Forms	2
Open Enrollment Delay	2
2008 FIGs	3
New Childcare Documentation	4
Source of Applications	4

If you have a story idea you would like
to share or comments about this
newsletter, please contact us.

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Revised Joint Application Available Now

The new and improved joint Healthy Families and Medi-Cal for Families paper application is now available! Here are some of the key changes you will notice in this new application:

- Easier to read, understand, and fill out
- New table of contents with important information on the front cover
- New, simple explanation on the “Four Easy Steps to Apply”
- New layout for easier navigation through the application
- New document checklist to help applicants reduce missing information
- More information on applying for coverage for pregnant women and unborn children
- New questions about multiple births for pregnant women
- New question about family members with disabilities living in the home
- New question about Medi-Cal Benefits Identification Card (BIC) numbers
- New options for sharing information between Healthy Families, Medi-Cal, and County Healthy Kids Programs
- Option to choose a vision care provider
- Option to include an applicant’s email address
- New FAQs that are organized to make finding answers easier
- Now available in two new languages - Arabic and Tagalog

You can print out the new application in any of the 12 languages from the Healthy Families website at <http://www.healthyfamilies.ca.gov/English/appldownload.html>. You can also download the Materials Order Form to order bulk supplies of the new Healthy Families and Medi-Cal Applications and Healthy Families Handbooks in all languages at <http://www.healthyfamilies.ca.gov/English/caa/marketing.htm>.

For instructions on filling out the new application, there’s a new Chapter 8 in the Certified Application Assistants (CAA) Reference Manual available on the HFP website in English at http://www.healthyfamilies.ca.gov/English/caa/caa_ref_manual.htm or in Spanish at <http://www.healthyfamilies.ca.gov/Spanish/caa.html>.

Health-e-App is also in the process of being updated with the same changes in the new joint Healthy Families and Medi-Cal for Families paper application. We will let you know more in the next newsletter about what’s new in Health-e-App.

Health-e-App is FREE! Go online now!

Revised CAA Reference Manual

The Healthy Families Program (HFP) provides Certified Application Assistants (CAAs) with the CAA Reference Manual. This manual is used for initial CAA training and is also an excellent reference guide for everyday use.

The HFP has just completed the annual update for the CAA Reference Manual to include recent program changes and updated forms. This revision also adds a new Chapter 8 ("Application Completion Instructions 2007"), which has step-by-step instructions for completing the new revised joint Healthy Families and Medi-Cal for Families paper application. The existing Chapter 8 ("Application Completion Instructions 2006") will remain available for use with the April 2006 version of the joint application.

The updated English CAA Reference Manual is located on the HFP website at http://www.healthyfamilies.ca.gov/English/caa/caa_ref_manual.htm. For Spanish, please visit <http://www.healthyfamilies.ca.gov/Spanish/caa.html>. The Table of Contents, Introduction, and each of the 13 chapters in the CAA Reference Manual are listed separately on the HFP website for CAA convenience. Please feel free to print the Reference Manual from the HFP website and place it in a binder for daily use!

Reminder: April 15, 2008 - New Tax Forms

April 15th of each year marks the date when the next year's tax forms are required as valid income documentation. When assisting applicants with income documentation after April 15th, please instruct applicants to send **2007 Tax Forms** (i.e. 1040, 1040EZ, Schedule C, etc.) rather than those from 2006. If tax forms from 2006 are submitted with an application after April 15th, the application will be considered incomplete and a request for missing information will be sent to the applicant due to missing income documentation.

1099 Forms for the 2007 Calendar Year

All Enrollment Entity (EE) reimbursement payments that total more than \$600 in a calendar year must be reported to the Internal Revenue Service on Form 1099 as they are considered non-employee compensation. 1099 Forms for the 2007 calendar year were sent in January 2008 to qualifying EEs. Please note that Internal Revenue Service tax law does not require a 1099 Form be sent to government agencies or corporations. For more information about the 1099 Forms or if you did not receive one but think you should have, please contact the EE/CAA Helpdesk by calling 1-800-279-5012 between 8:30 a.m. and 5:00 p.m. or via email at ee-caalialison@maximus.com.

Did You Know...

Health-e-App accepts VISA and MasterCard, and can electronically withdraw payments from a savings or checking account!
To sign up for Health-e-App, call 1-866-861-3443

Open Enrollment 2008 - Delayed

Each year, the Healthy Families Program (HFP) allows you to change your health, dental, and vision plans. This is called "Open Enrollment." Open Enrollment (OE) normally begins on April 15th and ends on May 31st. This year, OE will start at a later date. Prior to its actual start date, we will notify all HFP members when OE begins. The HFP will send an OE packet to all families. This packet will include a list of the health, dental, and vision plans that members can choose, as well as information to help with making those choices.

It is very important for families or applicants to contact the HFP if they have a change of address so that they receive an OE packet. Members should give the HFP their new address by calling 1-888-439-4741 even though OE has not yet started.

2008 Federal Income Guidelines

Each April 1st, new Federal Income Guidelines (FIGs) are put together by the Federal Government. These guidelines are adjusted each year and provide income ranges that are used as the basis for determining eligibility for the Medi-Cal for Families Program and the Healthy Families Program (HFP). They are also used to determine premiums in the HFP. The new 2008 FIG levels are used to determine eligibility on all applications received on or after April 1, 2008. The 2008 FIGs and the new HFP premium categories are shown below and are also available on the HFP website at http://www.healthyfamilies.ca.gov/Publications/FIG_2008_EN.pdf.

Healthy Families Program and Medi-Cal for Families Income Guideline Chart Effective April 1, 2008 through March 31, 2009

Family Size	Child Age 0 to 1 or Pregnant Woman Medi-Cal	Child Age 0 to 1 Healthy Families	Child Age 1 thru 5 Medi-Cal	Child Age 1 thru 5 Healthy Families	Child Age 6 thru 18 Medi-Cal	Child Age 6 thru 18 Healthy Families
1	\$0 - \$1,734	\$1,735 - \$2,167	\$0 - \$1,153	\$1,154 - \$2,167	\$0 - \$867	\$868 - \$2,167
2	\$0 - \$2,334	\$2,335 - \$2,917	\$0 - \$1,552	\$1,553 - \$2,917	\$0 - \$1,167	\$1,168 - \$2,917
3	\$0 - \$2,934	\$2,935 - \$3,667	\$0 - \$1,951	\$1,952 - \$3,667	\$0 - \$1,467	\$1,468 - \$3,667
4	\$0 - \$3,534	\$3,535 - \$4,417	\$0 - \$2,350	\$2,351 - \$4,417	\$0 - \$1,767	\$1,768 - \$4,417
5	\$0 - \$4,134	\$4,135 - \$5,167	\$0 - \$2,749	\$2,750 - \$5,167	\$0 - \$2,067	\$2,068 - \$5,167
6	\$0 - \$4,734	\$4,735 - \$5,917	\$0 - \$3,148	\$3,149 - \$5,917	\$0 - \$2,367	\$2,368 - \$5,917
7	\$0 - \$5,334	\$5,335 - \$6,667	\$0 - \$3,547	\$3,548 - \$6,667	\$0 - \$2,667	\$2,668 - \$6,667
8	\$0 - \$5,934	\$5,935 - \$7,417	\$0 - \$3,946	\$3,947 - \$7,417	\$0 - \$2,967	\$2,968 - \$7,417
9	\$0 - \$6,534	\$6,535 - \$8,167	\$0 - \$4,345	\$4,346 - \$8,167	\$0 - \$3,267	\$3,268 - \$8,167
10	\$0 - \$7,134	\$7,135 - \$8,917	\$0 - \$4,744	\$4,745 - \$8,917	\$0 - \$3,567	\$3,568 - \$8,917
Add the following dollar amount for each additional family member:						
	\$600	\$601 - \$750	\$399	\$400 - \$750	\$300	\$301 - \$750

HFP Monthly Premiums Categories A, B and C Effective April 1, 2008 through March 31, 2009

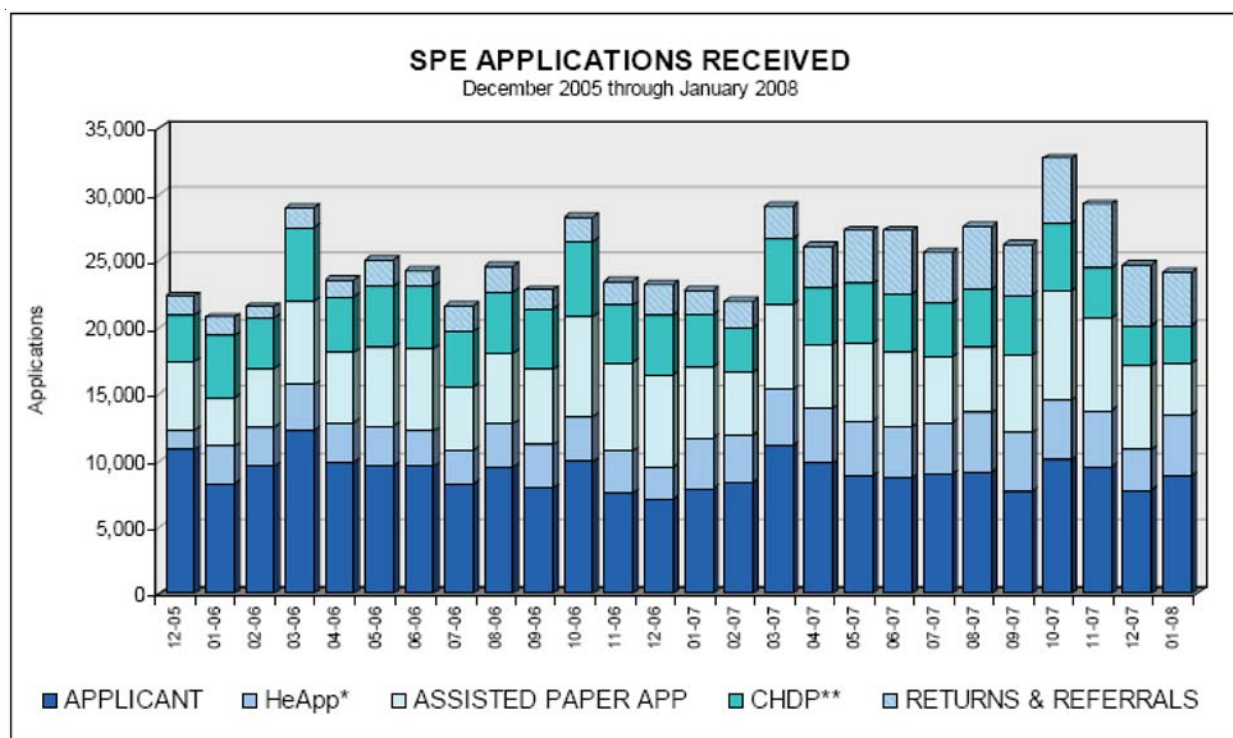
Family Size	Category A	Category B	Category C
1	\$868 - \$1,300	\$1,300.01 - \$1,734	\$1,734.01 - \$2,167
2	\$1,168 - \$1,750	\$1,750.01 - \$2,334	\$2,334.01 - \$2,917
3	\$1,468 - \$2,200	\$2,200.01 - \$2,934	\$2,934.01 - \$3,667
4	\$1,768 - \$2,650	\$2,650.01 - \$3,534	\$3,534.01 - \$4,417
5	\$2,068 - \$3,100	\$3,100.01 - \$4,134	\$4,134.01 - \$5,167
6	\$2,368 - \$3,550	\$3,550.01 - \$4,734	\$4,734.01 - \$5,917
7	\$2,668 - \$4,000	\$4,000.01 - \$5,334	\$5,334.01 - \$6,667
8	\$2,968 - \$4,450	\$4,450.01 - \$5,934	\$5,934.01 - \$7,417
9	\$3,268 - \$4,900	\$4,900.01 - \$6,534	\$6,534.01 - \$8,167
10	\$3,568 - \$5,350	\$5,350.01 - \$7,134	\$7,134.01 - \$8,917
Each Additional Family Member	\$301 - \$450	\$450.01 - \$600	\$600.01 - \$750

New Childcare Expenses Documentation

The Healthy Families Program (HFP) now accepts proof of childcare expenses for children under the age of 5 that includes the word “tuition.” This proof is now accepted because many young children now attend day care centers, which are called “academies.” These academies use receipts that say “tuition” rather than “childcare.”

When valid proof of childcare expenses is received by the HFP with the word “tuition,” the HFP will verify the age of the child for whom the expense is being claimed. If the child is under the age of 5, the HFP will accept the childcare documentation. If the child is age 5 or older, the HFP will consider the proof of childcare expenses unacceptable. In this case, the HFP will try to contact the applicant by phone and will send a missing information letter to ask the applicant to send valid proof of childcare expenses.

Source of Applications at Single Point of Entry (SPE)



Good news...from December 2005 through January 2008, approximately one third of all applications received at SPE were assisted by Certified Application Assistants. Thank you CAAs!

*HeApp – Health-e-App

**CHDP - Child Health and Disability Prevention gateway program.